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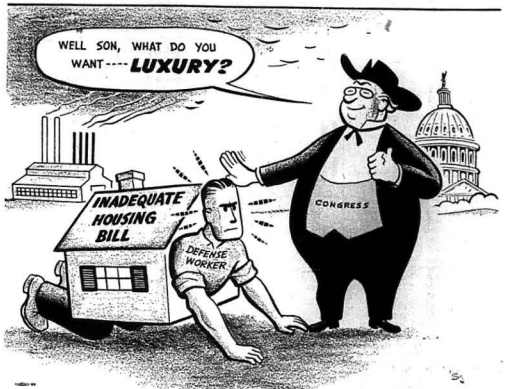
AFL Renews Labor Unity Drive



Asks Merger Conference As ULPC Is Disbanded

Washington.—The American Federation of Labor withdrew from the United Labor Policy Committee with an invitation to the Congress of Industrial Organizations to resume negotiations "to bring about labor peace through organic unity."

The negotiations, cafried on for some years, reached a stage in mid-1950 where standing committees from the AFL and CIO had agreed on a plan of unity. Meetings were suddenly suspended at the CIO's request.

The United Labor Policy Committee was established by the AFL, CIO, International Association of Machinists, then unaffiliated, and the railroad brotherhoods to fight for equal treatment in the defense mobilization program.

United Labor won that fight for which the committee was created.

On Aug. 28, representing the AFL, President William Green, Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, and Vice President George M. Harrison, Daniel W. Tracy, William C. Doherty, William L. McFetridge and William C. Birthright presented the following statement to a regularly scheduled meeting of the United Labor Policy Committee:

"The representatives of the American Federation of Labor herewith announce their withdrawal from the United Labor Policy Committee.

"The committee was organized last Dec. 14 to deal with an emergency situation, namely, the immediate problems arising out of defense mobilization. It has unquestionably served a good purpose. To a large extent it has accomplished its purpose.

"Today, largely as a result of the committee's efforts, labor has won representation in the key defense agencies. It has been accorded a voice at the top level in the determination of defense policies and at lower levels in the administration of those policies.

"From now on, basic improvement in defense policies must be sought by labor through legislation by Congress. It was never intended that the United Labor Policy Committee should serve as the joint legislative representative of its component organizations. In fact, that would be impossible.

"We emphasize that the United Labor Policy Committee was established on a temporary basis. Its operations never were and never could be regarded as a satisfactory substitute for organic unity of the free American trade union movement.

"To the American Federation of Labor there is no substitute for organic unity. Only through a united labor movement, merged into a single organization, can the workers of America attain the power, the status and the consideration which is their due.

"In furtherance of that objective, and to assure that the goodwill and fraternity engendered by our associations with the representatives of the Congress of Industrial Organizations on this United Labor Policy Committee are not allowed to lapse, the representatives of the American Federation of Labor hereby propose that the standing committees of both organizations resume at the earliest opportunity their negotiations to bring about labor peace through organic unity."

The CIO representatives said they would issue a statement later.

Gray Asks Congress Kill T-H Polls for AFL Trades

Washington.—President Richard J. Gray of the AFL Building and Construction Trades Department asked Congress to abolish collective bargaining and union shop elections for AFL crafts unions in the building and construction industry.

He testified before a subcommittee of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee in behalf of an amendment to the Taft-Hartley Act which would end the elections requirements which, Mr. Gray said, have plunged the industry into "a completely chaotic" situation.

The amendment is sponsored by Sens. Hubert H. Humphrey and Robert A. Taft. The Senate earlier voted to end union shop elections required by the Taft-Hartley law in all industries because workers had voted in more than 95 percent of all such polls for union membership.

Mr. Gray said flatly that his endorsement of the amendment to exempt the building and construction industry from bargaining and union shop elections "should not be construed as meaning that I am in agreement with the remaining features of the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947."

The AFL has called for outright repeal of the Taft-Hartley law and restoration of the Wagner Act with modifications.

Mr. Gray pointed out that building craftsmen work on jobs at different times, for as many as 8 or 10 contractors in a year, and in places as widely varied as a dam in Montana, a building in Seattle and houses in California.

Under the collective bargaining relationship developed more than 50 years ago and grown to great stability, the contractors and unions negotiate in November for wages and working conditions effective the following May so that employers may bid with reasonable certainty of their labor costs on construction projects.

If the law is allowed to stand requiring bargaining elections before a contract can be negotiated, and another election before a union shop can be instituted, the effect will be to bring building and construction to a halt, Mr. Gray said.

He said the National Labor Relations Board simply cannot hold the elections required by law. The provisions are unworkable.

"Since the board has not found it possible to carry out the election procedure of the act in the building and construction industry it is our opinion that it necessarily follows that building and construction trades unions are denied the right to enter into even the limited union-security contracts freely available to unions in other industries," Mr. Gray said.

"The impact of this situation upon employer-employe relations in the industry has been tremendous.

"No industry in the country has had more stable collective bargaining relationships in the past than has the building and construction industry. The collective bargaining pattern built up in the past half century, which has worked so satisfactorily both from the point of view of the employer and the building and construction workmen is being completely destroyed and the entire industry is being plunged into a completely chaotic relationship due primarily to the election procedures established in the act.

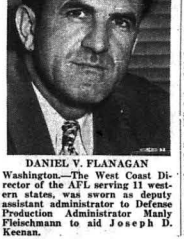
"On behalf of the more than 2,750,000 building and construction tradesmen affiliated with the Building and Construction Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, I respectfully request the early enactment of Senate Bill 1973 eliminating representation and union shop elections in the building and construction industry."

UNION VOTES FALL TO 70 PERCENT

Washington. — Employes voting for union membership in collective bargaining elections fell to 75 percent of the total in the period from April to June, 1951.

This is one of the lowest percentages recorded under Taft-Hartley. Under the Wagner Act the average was over 80 percent.

Taft-Hartley weights the scales in favor of employers in collective bargaining elections.



DANIEL V. FLANAGAN

Washington.—The West Coast Director of the AFL serving 11 western states, was sworn as deputy assistant administrator to Defense Production Administrator Manly Fleischmann to aid Joseph D. Keenan.

Wisconsin AFL Head Urges Beat McCarthy

(Special Correspondence)

Superior, Wis.—Defeat of U. S. Senator Joseph McCarthy "in the name of Wisconsin progressivism" was urged by George A. Haberman, president, Wisconsin State Federation of Labor.

Addressing the state AFL convention, Mr. Haberman described McCarthy as "an individual who would sell his country down the river for 30 headlines a month."

The reputation of strong, progressive government built up by Wisconsin by such statesmen as Robert La Follette, Sr., Robert La Follette, Jr., Rep. George Schneider and Rep. Victor Berger, is being torn down by Senator McCarthy, Haberman said.

He called for reorganization of the federation's political action program to give greater powers to labor committees at the rank-and-file level.

ITU Counsel Says NLRB Treatment Mocks Justice

Atlanta, Ga.—Henry Kaiser, counsel for AFL International Typographical Union, told the union's 93d convention that its treatment by the National Labor Relations Board is "shabby" and "mocks justice."

Mr. Kaiser recounted the incidents leading up to NLRB's decision to enforce orders against the ITU issued on the basis of charges made by the American Newspaper Publishers Association.

He said NLRB refused to accept the ITU offer of full compliance with board orders and had several times ignored letters of inquiry.

"Silence is even less committing and hence, for some, even more convenient, than talking in circles," Mr. Kaiser said. He charged the board went ahead with its decision to prosecute the ITU in court against the recommendation of General Counsel George Bott. He said the step was taken the day after the American Newspaper Publishers Association had asked the board to review those portions of its orders which were favorable to ITU.

"By board action that confounds precedent, that flouts principle, that mocks justice and defies justification, we find ourselves in court again," Mr. Kaiser said.

"We shall not meekly accept this shabby treatment. We shall expose, protest and denounce it to the end that, Taft-Hartley or no, some semblance of courage, consistency and consistency be applied to the administration of labor laws."

Argument in the ITU cases was scheduled by the Chicago Circuit Court of Appeals for Sept. 20.

JOB OUTLOOK CHANGES

Washington. — America's mobilization efforts have changed the employment outlook for nearly every type of job in the country.

Foods, Rents Lead Upswing

Washington.—Retail food prices and rents rose 0.4 percent each between June 15 and July 15.

They led an upswing in the cost of living totaling 0.6 percent, to a new high record figure of 185.5.

This is 9 percent higher than June 1950 (pre-Korea).

Smaller price rises were recorded during the June-July period for miscellaneous goods and services, fuel and electricity. Clothing dropped 0.3 percent.

Foods and rents make up the major budget item for moderate income families in large cities surveyed by the Department of Labor cost of living index.

Green Supports DPA Changes

Washington.—AFL President William Green endorsed President Truman's recommendations for strengthening price controls of the Defense Production Act and urged Congress to pass them promptly.

"Congress now has a final chance to redeem itself," Mr. Green said. "If it fails to act favorably on the President's three specific recommendations, this Congress will be held responsible by the American people for allowing the cost of living to get out of hand.

Despite Mr. Truman's urgent request and the support of federal economic stabilization officials, organized labor and other consumer groups, the Dixiecrats and Republicans in Congress said in effect: "Nuts."

North Carolina AFL Fights Congress Slur On Teachers

Salisbury, N. C.—The North Carolina State Federation of Labor petitioned Senate President Alben W. Barkley for a redress of the grievance committed against the AFL and American Federation of Teachers by the slurring remarks of Sen. Clyde R. Hoey, Democrat from North Carolina, on the floor of the U. S. Senate.

In an accompanying communication to Vice President Barkley and House Speaker Sam Rayburn, the North Carolina AFL also condemned the "misleading and erroneous statements" on the floor of both houses by Senators Hoey and Willis Smith and Rep. Graham A. Barden of North Carolina's 2d District. The state AFL said:

"In addition to the misleading and false statements Senators Hoey and Smith made in the Senate, both of them have addressed absurd and wholly unjustified and undignified letters to Secretary of Defense Marshall and Secretary of the Army Pace, while Representative Barden threatened Col. Robert Ginsen, chief of reorientation division in the office of Secretary of the Army, with future reprisals, should the colonel's name ever come up in Congress.

"All of these actions and activities are based upon the Army's withdrawal of its invitation to Dr. Ralph Brimley to be 1 of 15 educators named by the Army to go on a mission to Japan to instruct the Japanese in democratic education.

"Dr. Brimley is superintendent of public schools in Forsyth County, North Carolina, of which Winston-Salem is the county seat. It was at the request of C. A. Fink, assistant Green of the American Federation of Labor, acting upon information and at the request of C. A. Wright, North Carolina State Federation of Labor, that Dr. Brimley's invitation was recalled, and for very valid reasons."

The communication was signed by delegates to the state convention from central labor unions at Asheville, Charlotte, Durham, Greensboro, High Point, Plymouth, Raleigh, Reidsville, Salisbury, Winston-Salem and Wilmington.

Dr. Brimley was taken off a mission to Japan to assist in the democratic education process after Mr. Green, the state AFL and Teachers' union protested his appointment. The protest was based on Dr. Brimley's threats to fire teachers who join a union and to refuse to recommend for another job any teacher who joined a union.

School teachers in Japan are 90 percent organized in what is regarded as the biggest and strongest teachers union in the world. It is credited with helping to keep the mass of Japanese people loyal and friendly to the United States and United Nations when General MacArthur stripped Japan of combat troops to halt Soviet Russia's aggression in Korea.

Yet Dr. Brimley, an outspoken enemy of the teachers union, was designated to go to Japan "to assist in the democratic education process."

Brimley Unfit for Japan By Undemocratic Stand

Chicago.—The American Federation of Teachers opposed sending Dr. Ralph Brimley, Winston-Salem, N. C., to Japan because of his demonstrated undemocratic attitude of opposition to teacher unions.

"This is a time when friends of the Teachers' union rather than its enemies should be sent to Japan," the AFT said in a summary of the case.

Dr. Brimley, who threatened to fire teachers who joined a union and give them unfavorable references, was withdrawn as a member of a U. S. de'egation to Japan upon protests by the AFL. North Carolina's two Dixiecrat senators and Rep. Graham Barden attacked the AFL as "dictatorial" in speeches in Congress.

Here's why the AFL made its fight on Dr. Brimley:

In recent weeks David Selden, AFL field representative, has been initiating an organization program in North Carolina where teachers badly need the support of organized labor. After a new AFL local was chartered in Forsyth County, the county superintendent of schools, Dr. Ralph Brimley, called a meeting of the teachers and presented arguments against formation of a teachers union. The Winston-Salem Journal of May 8, 1951, quotes Dr. Brimley as stating:

"And I do not believe I would recommend to schools elsewhere a teacher who has been active in a union in this county. If a young man becomes too active in a union, I doubt that I would ever recommend him for an administrative post."

Such undemocratic action on the part of school administrators was emphatically condemned by the 1950 convention of the American Federation of Labor in the following language:

"Pressure upon class room teachers by their superiors to join nonunion organizations or pressure not to join union organizations are highly undemocratic procedures which should be emphatically condemned in a democratic country. Freedom to join a union is the right of every teacher in the public schools of the United States and any school administrator who arbitrarily denies that right to class room teachers deserves dismissal for violation of the basic principle of democracy."

Ironically—at almost the very time when Dr. Brimley was thus violating the basic principles of democratic education in his own school district—the press announced that he had been selected as one of a group of 15 educators to go to Japan as an institute for educational leadership.

Following the cessation of hostilities in World War II the occupation forces in Japan urged the organization of free trade unions as part of the new democratic society they sought. The teachers who previously had been organized in the Imperial Teachers Association, a government-controlled "company union," formed a teachers' union affiliated with the trade union movement of Japan. The organization has nearly half a million members and represents more than 90 percent of the teachers of the nation.

A great deal of AFT literature was sent to Japan to assist in organizing this new union on a sound democratic basis. James Killen, AFL representative in Japan, and Richard Deverall (now employed by the AFL in India), head of the labor education division of the occupation forces, did much to assist and guide the new Japan Teachers Union.

The Japan Teachers' Union, which is the second largest union in Japan, played an important part in that loyalty which was so vital to the success of the Korean campaign. In reward for and in recognition of that loyalty the United States proposed to send to Japan an administrator who is a strong and pronounced opponent of the principles of teacher unionism. The threat of this move to the security of the United States in the Far East is obvious. This is a time when friends of the Teachers' union rather than its enemies should be sent to Japan.

Teachers Fight Firing Of Union Members

Grand Rapids, Mich. — President John M. Eklund of the AFL American Federation of Teachers told the 34th annual convention that the past year had seen "an epidemic of vicious unwarranted firing of teachers" in some cases with the "specific charge of union participation."

Mr. Eklund, a public school teacher in Denver, Colo., said in his annual report that there had been "a tightening of the noose around the neck of free education" as textbooks have been banned, curricula mutilated and teaching materials subjected to the most reactionary scrutiny.

He listed 3 firing cases which he said were the "most flagrant." These were the dismissals of 7 teachers from the Iowa School for the Deaf in Council Bluffs, Iowa; 16 in Miami, Fla., and the president of a new teachers' local in Kellogg, Idaho. The union fought all the firings. It won reinstatement for 7 teachers fired at San Jose, Calif., State College.

President Truman sent greetings to the 500 delegates representing 80,000 teachers throughout the country.

'Hit Those Books' Tobin Urges School-Age Youth

Washington.—The nation is counting upon its school-age boys and girls to return to the classroom and hit those books when classes resume this fall.

Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin issued a special "stay-in-school" statement that youngsters "get all the education you can; stay in school."

"Don't short-change yourself and your country," he said. "Get the high school boys and girls he said also:

"As school days come around again, the youth of the country has the center of the stage.

"All of us are counting on you to return to school, to continue your preparation for the service you will be called upon to play in our country's defense effort.

"If you have been working this summer, your pay check probably looks good to you. But look ahead. This is no brief emergency we face us now; it may be a long-range struggle in which we are engaged. We need all of our citizens working at their highest skills for years to come if we are to meet the obligations of world leadership which have been thrust upon us.

"To contribute your best skills to your country's efforts, you need all the education and training you can absorb.

"The armed services advise you to get at least a high school education if you can; business needs trained men and women; industry needs skilled technicians; modern life itself puts a premium on education.

"During World War II over 600,000 more young people dropped out of high school before graduation than would have in normal times. These were the war casualties on the educational front. At the defense effort gets under way and jobs become plentiful, the school drop-out rate is again beginning to climb. I am counting on you to reverse this trend."

SIR?

Torquay, England.—A delegate to the Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers objected to trade union leaders accepting knighthood unless they resign their union posts.

The general secretary of the union is Sir Luke Fawcett.

The resolution was lost after another delegate remarked that "if one of our leaders gets a title we can be sure he has earned it."

Sir William Lawther was the British Trades Union Congress fraternal delegate to the AFL convention last year in Houston. Sir Vincent Tewson was elected president of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions at Milan in July.

ALL THE NEWS? TIMES FAW DOWN

New York.—The New York Times (whose motto unabashedly displayed every morning in a front-page ear proclaims "All the News That's Fit to Print") sent staff reporters to annual conventions of the American Federation of Teachers and International Photo-Engravers Union.

But The Times could find no space for stories from its own correspondents or the wire services on the convention of the International Typographical Union in Atlanta, Ga.—a radical change in news judgment which for years has found columns of space available for court and National Labor Relations Board persecution of the ITU.

ERECTED GIRL SCOUT BUILDING.—San Joaquin-Calaveras, Calif.—Going over plans for a camp building that was a gift of AFL unions to the Girl Scouts of this area are, l. to r., Harmon Mundt and Ray Dengate, Carpenters; James Kirk, Plumbers, and Ernest French, contractor. Since 1947, the AFL building trades unions have donated $7,875 cash and thousands more in labor to Camp Menadies in the Sierra Nevadas—another example of widespread community service performed by AFL unions.

ICFTU Hails U.S. Labor Role in World Affairs

BAUM ELECTED

Des Moines, Iowa.—Earl J. Baum, Keokuk, Iowa, was unanimously elected secretary-treasurer of the Iowa State Federation of Labor by the executive board to replace the late J. J. Brown of Dubuque.

President of the Keokuk Trades and Labor Assembly and president of the Amerihan Federation of Grain Millers Local No. 7, Keokuk, Mr. Baum, 47, has served also as vice president of Keokuk Local No. 22077 of the rubber workers.

Kuenzli Heads World Teachers

Paris, France.—Irvin R. Kuenzli, secretary-treasurer AFL American Federation of Teachers, was elected first president of the newly organized International Federation of Free Teachers' Unions (SPIE—Syndicate Professional International de L'Enseignement.)

M. M. Van de Moortel, secretary Belgian Teachers Union, was elected general secretary and C. Walusinski, secretary French Teachers' Union, was chosen assistant secretary. Membership totals 700,000.

The new teachers' organization declared that one of its principal objectives will be to assist in marshaling the strength of the 50 million members of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in support of public education as the indispensable basis of democratic government.

The organization declared that every child in the free world regardless of race, creed, sex, color, or the economic status of its parents, should have the right to secure the full education to which it is entitled, in terms of its ability and its interest.

Among the nations represented at the conference were France, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Belgium, United States, Spanish Teachers in exile, and Polish Teachers in exile. Representatives from the Japan Teachers' Union, which is the largest organization associated with the movement, failed to arrive in time for the meeting.

STUDY PENSIONS

Washington.—The Wage Stabilization Board appointed a 6-man tripartite advisory committee of experts to work with the board in the development of stabilization policy on health, welfare and pension programs.

Labor members are Carl Huhndorff, research director AFL International Association of Machinists, and Harry Becker, head of the Insurance and Pension Department of the CIO United Automobile Workers Union.

The committee will work closely with the board which includes AFL Vice President Harry C. Bates.

BANNISTER NAMED

St. Paul, Minn.—President Robert A. Olson of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor appointed Charles Bannister, business representative of Hotel and Restaurant Employes Local 84, Duluth, as vice president of the state AFL to replace Carl Swenson, who resigned.

Brussels, Belgium.—The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions greeted U. S. labor in a Labor Day message with wishes for growth and prosperity.

Speaking for 52 million trade unionists in 66 different countries, ICFTU General Secretary J. H. Oldenbroek said in his message to the AFL that no just and stable solution to the world's problems can be found without the full participation of organized labor.

He said that for the free world much depends upon the way the countries of North America meet the problems of totalitarian aggression, inflation, price and rent control, equitable sharing of tax burdens. He said in part:

"You, the workers of North America, will be among the first to agree that modern science and technique have accomplished such progress that, in a world where distance no longer matters, all men should feel that they belong to a single community and work together for the solution of their common problems.

"If only for the defense of the democratic way of life—not to speak of its extension to those who do not yet enjoy it—workers who enjoy a higher standard of living must show their solidarity with their less fortunate brethren.

"The organized labor movement of North America has proved—by deeds as well as words—that it understands the meaning of real international solidarity. This is the brotherhood of international labor, which is the key to true democracy and peace. This is the aim of the free world trade union movement, which is proud to count American labor within its ranks.

"May the free trade union movement of North America continue to grow and prosper, so that it will be in even a better position to defend the workers' interests."

BTUC Supports Rearmament

London, England.—One thing stands out on the agenda for the British Trades Unions Congress meeting scheduled for the first week in September:

The unions are backing the rearmament program.

The accent is all on spreading the burden fairly and there is no suggestion that the burden itself should be eliminated, except from one or two small unions which appear from the wording of their resolutions to have been influenced by Communist propaganda.

Apart from this, there is nothing whatever to indicate any support for Mr. Aneurin Bevan's theory that the present rearmament program is both unbearable and unnecessarily large.

On the main issue—that of the rising cost of living—there is wide agreement that something should be done. But, so far, no one has suggested any solution which is likely to be controversial from the trade union point of view.

AFL fraternal delegates to the BTUC are Vice President Charles J. MacGowan, president Boilermakers, and Richard J. Gray, president Building and Construction Trades Council.

N. P. Feinsinger to Head Wage Stabilization Board

Washington.—Nathan P. Feinsinger, University of Wisconsin law professor, will become chairman of the Wage Stabilization Board when Dr. George W. Taylor resigns to return to the University of Pennsylvania.

Thomas F. Coman, Washington newspaperman, will be named a public member to fill the vacancy.

The changes are expected to be made official by the White House about Sept. 1.

Defense Mobilization Director Charles E. Wilson issued a directive to the Defense Department and other procurement agencies, to the Defense Manpower Administration and to the Wage Stabilization Board outlining the policy to be followed on wage adjustments for manpower purposes.

The directive limits governmental agency requests for manpower wage adjustments and WSB consideration of such requests to "rare and unusual cases" involving manpower shortages in essential defense activities or activities essential to the national health, safety and interest.

In addition, Mr. Wilson's policy statement provides that in rare and unusual cases the WSB will consider manpower wage increase requests from other federal agencies concerned only if they certify to the board that a concerted program has been undertaken to remedy the manpower shortage and a wage adjustment is an important part of the over-all effoffrt to attract and retain labor.

The new policy was approved by the ODM Inter-Agency Manpower Policy Committee and by the ODM Labor-Management Manpower Policy Committee, a group representing organized labor and industry.

Meanwhile a special panel failed to agree on whether the wages of 14 million workers in industries exempt from price controls should be exempt from wage stabilization.

The panel turned the problem back to the board for a decision. The study was ordered because the Defense Production Act is confusing on this point.

NAM: GO JUMP IN A HOLE

New York.—Forbes Magazine, a big business mouthpiece, said editorially:

"Those who believe in free enterprise would be far better off if the National Association of Manufacturers would jump into one of the holes it is constantly digging."

But the NAM News rejected the advice. It advocated a boycott by business men of the offending magazine.

Request No Cut In Foreign Aid

Washington.—AFL President William Green asked Chairman Tom Connally of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations to support President Truman's request for foreign economic aid amounting to $8.5 billion.

Mr. Green made the request in a letter to Mr. Connally after the committee decided there would be no public hearings on the bill. He said the AFL gives its full support to the Mutual Security Program outlined by the President.

"We strongly urge authorization of the necessary funds and request that no reduction be made in the authorization proposed by the President," Mr. Green said. He said economic assistance to our allies is as vital as our military assistance to them.

"We further recommend the unification of the foreign economic activities of the United States government in a single independent agency under an administrator responsible to the President of the United States," he said.

Mr. Green asked the Senate to note testimony given in detail on the Mutual Security Program before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs by AFL Economist Boris Shishkin.

The House passed the program with almost $1 billion cut off the appropriation. Senator Connally's committee recommended more than $1 billion reduction.

3 Price Act Changes Asked

Washington. — President Truman asked Congress to make 3 important changes in the Defense Production Act to prevent an unreasonable rise in the cost of living.

But the Dixiecrats and Republicans turned him down before his message was read.

Mr. Truman asked:

1. Repeal of the amendment sponsored by Republican Sen. Homer E. Capehart which permits individual sellers to pass on to consumer all cost increases since the outbreak of the Korean war.

2. Repeal of the amendment sponsored by Dixiecrat Sen. A. S. Herlong, Jr., of Florida, which guarantees the same percentage of profit as pre-Korea on each item for wholesalers and retailers.

3. Renewed authority for imposition of livestock slaughtering quotas to prevent black markets.

INVITED

Los Angeles, Calif.—The National Labor Council of the City of Hope invited delegates to the 70th AFL convention in San Francisco to visit the City of Hope at Duarte while on the West Coast.

The delegates will be shown through this national medical center where thousands of trade union victims of tuberculosis and other major chest diseases have received medical care at no cost to themselves.

AFL unions are generous contributors to the City of Hope.

Pass Realtors' Housing Bill

Washington.—Congress passed and sent to President Truman a housing bill as drafted and favored by the real estate lobby—far short of the nation's critical needs for its defense workers and soldiers.

Mr. Truman was expected to sign the measure.

The bill provided $1,635,000,000 to encourage a new building boom in defense production areas and around military installations—by private industry.

If private enterprise fails to meet the need, the bill would permit the government to give 90 days notice of the number and type of houses needed in any one area and then step in and build up to $50 million worth of public housing.

The only provision favored by the AFL and liberal housing groups to be enacted was the section relaxing credit curbs on low and medium-priced housing throughout the country.

MICHAEL CASHAL DIES

New York.—Michael J. Cashal, 70, first vice president International Brotherhood of Teamsters and president of Local 553, died Aug. 20 in New York Hospital. He played a key role in the unionization of truckmen and milk wagon drivers and negotiations of contracts for them in the New York area.

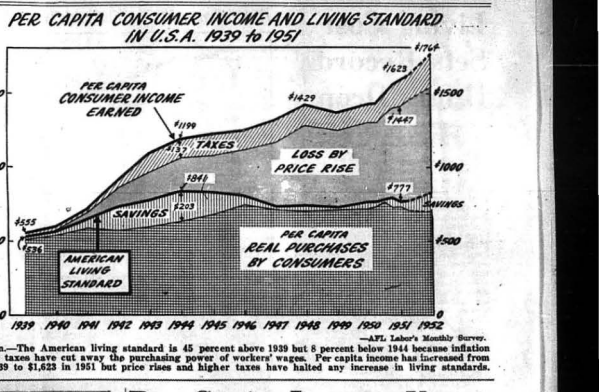
UNION LABEL PURSE OFFERED AT CALIFORNIA FAIR RACES

Sacramento, Calif.—The first annual running of the "Union Label Purse" at the California State Fair was set for Labor Day as part of a gigantic state-wide celebration of Union Label Week.

The unique sporting event, sponsored by the AFL Union Label Trades Department, is the first of its kind to be held anywhere, and it is hoped that the colorful race can be extended to other states in the future.

California's Gov. Earl Warren and Ray Leheney, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department, were to present a trophy to the winning horse and jockey, with celebrities of stage, screen, radio and TV also participating in the festivities.

Following the day-long Union Label celebration at the fair, a spectacular fireworks display was booked for the evening, with a giant picture of Governor Warren in colorful pyrotechnics with the legend "Buy Union Label" below.



—AFL Labor's Monthly Survey.

Washington.—The American living standard is 45 percent above 1939 but 8 percent below 1944 because inflation and higher taxes have cut away the purchasing power of workers' wages. Per capita income has increased from $555 in 1939 to $1,623 in 1951 but price rises and higher taxes have halted any increase in living standards.

FRED W. ERHARD

Pusan, Korea.—Fred W. Erhard, assistant director U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Apprenticeship and member AFL International Association of Machinists, arrived here on loan to the United Nations' Korean Reconstruction Agency to help advise free Korean people in rebuilding their war-torn country. He is special adviser on industrial training.

Daily Reporters Ask More Union Information

Chicago. — Daily reporters urged members of the Chicago Labor Press Club to help them get more complete information from unions on their activities.

The daily reporters said they can do a much better job if labor unions, from international executives on down to the members themselves, would furnish more complete information to the daily papers about all labor union activities.

Members of the club were in agreement with the suggestions made by the daily reporters.

The club planned a general labor press conference to be held in Chicago in the near future.

E. A. Moore, editor Butcher Workman, is president and Irwin Klass, Chicago Federation News, is secretary-treasurer of the club formed early this year to advance interests of bonafide labor publications.

In addition to labor editors, other members are daily newspaper reporters covering labor news, research directors, members of state and municipal bureaus handling news releases and radio commentators.

HEARINGS CALLED

Washington. — Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Labor and Labor-Management Relations, called hearings Aug. 27 and 28 on S. 1973, which amends the Taft-Hartley law to eliminate the requirements for union shop and representation elections in the construction industry as conditions for negotiating a union shop agreement.

Per Capita Income Up, Living Standards Fall

Washington.—The Department of Commerce reported that Americans averaged an income of $1,436 for each man, woman and child in 1950.

Newspapers front-paged the yarn as the biggest dollar total in history, a gain of $116 or 9 percent over 1949.

Meanwhile the AFL Labor's Monthly Survey pointed out that, while per capita income increased more than 3 times in the past 12 years, the American living standard is 8 percent lower than in 1944.

The survey said that the high prices of the Taft-NAM clique in Congress and the high tax policies of the Dixiecrat-Republican Congresses, discriminating against low-income workers, have chiseled away at the living standard.

In reporting the average per capita income, the Commerce Department divided total income payments—including dividends, interests, rents, profits, wages and salaries—by the total population.

The range was from $698 in Mississippi, $825 in Arkansas, to $1,986 in the District of Columbia, $1,909 in Delaware, $1,875 in Nevada.

Most of the same newspapers which carried the per capita income record prominently buried another story on page 2 or 3 in which nine national welfare agencies reported to the Joint Congressional Economic Committee on 100 families with incomes less than $2,000 a year.

There are 10,500,000 families with less than $2,000 a year income. To improve their lot, these families need improvement in minimum wage, housing and health laws, higher unemployment compensation and more liberal Federal aid to dependent children, the agencies said.

MODEL CODE

Washington.—A proposed model emergency building code ordinance was approved by the advisory committee on the administration of local building regulations of the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

The model ordinance would permit local building officials to authorize the use of alternate materials and technique during the present emergency when certain required materials are in short supply.

Copies of the ordinance can be obtained from Administrator Raymond M. Foley, Housing and Home Finance Agency, Washington 25, D. C.

Defense Relies On U. S. Labor

By GEORGE C. MARSHALL
Secretary of Defense

Washington. — Our success in rebuilding free-world defenses and in repelling threats to our security depends in large measure upon the productivity of American labor.

American labor has consistently stressed its stake in the free way of life and has made great contributions to the preservation of that life. The past record of its men and women is a the firmest assurance that they will meet the needs of these critical times.

Lunch Box Tips Given

New York. — A new booklet "Picnic Meals," will make meals more pleasant for members of union families who carry lunches—to work, to school or to picnics.

Published by Brevity, Inc., 270 Park Ave., New York City, co-authors are Gertrude Blair, home economist, and Gordon H. Cole, editor The Machinist, a weekly newspaper of the AFL International Association of Machinists.

The authors were inspired to write "Picnic Meals" by the success of the Lunch Box Corner, which appears in The Machinist. As soon as it appeared, the Lunch Box Corner became the center of interest for women—and men—readers, who wrote in asking questions and giving answers, and offering wonderful lunch box recipes. The booklet contains the best ideas and recipes that have appeared in The Machinist.

"Picnic Meals" is being sold to organizations, and to women's auxiliaries, for distribution to members; also to home economics classes in schools and colleges. It is available only in quantities of 10 or more copies at 15 cents each, with special rates for quantities of 25 or more.

If you purchase more union label goods on buy-day—you'll have more money on pay-day.

ASKS FEPC

Milwaukee, Wis.—President Lester Washburn of the AFL United Automobile Workers called on President Truman to establish an emergency Federal Fair Employment Practices Commission. He said in a message to Mr. Truman:

"International Union UAW-AFL urges you to establish emergency federal FEPC during present defense buildup period.

"Need for more workers alone would justify declaration of such an emergency measure but Cicero riots and other evidences elsewhere of continued un-American discrimination against people of other races, colors, creeds, and our leadership in ideological struggle of free nations against communism are additional arguments for this action by you."

OPPOSE POWER INCREASE

San Francisco.—The Office of Price Stabilization opposed a $1 million increase in electric rates proposed to be established by the California Electric Power Co. as "a long, forward step in the upward spiral of inflation, contributing its full share to the threat of runaway, uncontrollable inflation." OPS made its position known in a brief filed with the California Public Utilities Commission by Director Michael V. DiSalle.

Living Cost Sets Record, Hours Drop

Washington.—The threat of growing inflation which is reducing living standards clouded Labor Day celebrations.

But through the gloom, AFL officials and union members pledged their fullest and most earnest efforts to elect a Congress that will halt this threat on the home front as effectively as America's armed might is halting Communist aggression in Korea and elsewhere.

AFL President William Green spoke at the international Labor Day celebration at Toronto, Canada, and to American workers over the National Broadcasting System.

Secretary-Treasurer George Meany made a nation-wide Mutual Broadcasting System speech and Lewis G. Hines, special representative, spoke for the AFL at the Grand Rapids, Mich., rally touching off a new U. S. Savings Bond drive.

Parades, picnics and other public affairs were held in almost every city of consequence across the nation by AFL federated groups.

In Camden, N. J., the Central Labor Union conducted memorial services at the grave of Peter J. McGuire, founder of Labor Day and first secretary-treasurer of the AFL.

In Sacramento, Calif., the first running of the California Label Purse was held at the California State Fair horse races.

Churches marked Labor Sunday, Sept. 2.

A majority of states and many cities proclaimed Sept. 2 to 8 Union Label Week devoted to the wider use of union label goods and services produced and performed at high wages and under union working conditions.

Beneath the celebrating was a current of anxiety.

The cost of living rose again, two-tenths of one percent, under the lax price controls enacted by Congress. Hours of work dropped by nearly one-half hour to 40.4 hours per week, the level of a year ago.

Employment was at an all-time peak of 63 million workers and unemployment was less than 2 million, but there were many dislocations which had thrown workers off payrolls because of the ill-planning of defense mobilization officials.

Average hourly earnings in manufacturing were $1.58 and weekly earnings ran around $64.

Dollar-wise, the average worker had achieved new peaks. But because of the rise in prices his dollar is not buying all of the necessities of life and he is about to be hit by another Dixiecrat-Republican "soak-the-poor-spare-the-rich" tax law.

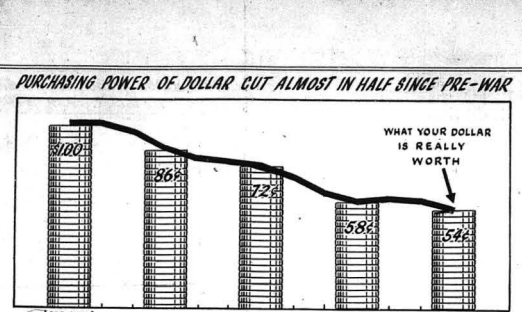
BROADCAST

Washington.—European free trade union spokesmen were scheduled to broadcast to America on Labor Day in a special Mutual Broadcasting System network show.

They were to give the story of their cold war in Europe against Communist infiltration.

Union members were urged to check their local newspapers or MBS station for time of the broadcast, which is sponsored by Economic Cooperation Administration.

If you're on a Union Label League team—say, brother, you're on the beam!



Washington.—And the purchasing power will drop still more in the next year under the Defense Production Act already passed and the soak-the-poor-tax-law the 82d Congress is drafting.

—AFL Labor's Monthly Survey.

AFL Members Appointed To Regional Wage Boards

Washington.—The Wage Stabilization Board announced appointment of the industry and labor members of 14 regional boards currently being set up to help speed case processing and facilitate the operation of the wage stabilization program.

Each regional board will include 4 public, 4 industry and 4 labor representatives.

The national WSB already has delegated authority to its regional directors to process and act upon wage adjustment applications and petitions involving base pay period abnormalities, certain new plant cases, petitions filed under the tandem regulation, productivity increases and agricultural wage cases.

The AFL members are:

Boston, Mass.—Region I.—Daniel Goggin, Boot and Shoe Workers, Boston, Mass.; Joseph M. Rourke, secretary-treasurer, Connecticut State Federation of Labor, Bridgeport, Conn.; alternates, John McConnell, Amalgamated Street and Electric Railway Employes Union, Providence, R. I., and John J. Donnellan, International Association of Machinists, Watertown, Mass.

New York, N. Y.—Region II.—Martin T. Lacey, president, Central Trade and Labor Union Council of Greater New York; Howard McSpeden, president, Building Trade Council, New York; alternates, Hy F. Kolin, International Association of Machinists, New York.

Philadelphia, Pa. — Region III. — John B. Backus, president, Joint Teamsters Council, Philadelphia; Vincent L. Casale, Butcher Workmen, Philadelphia; alternates, Samuel Perro, business manager, Laborers Local Union No. 172, Trenton, N. J., and William H. Norvell, secretary, Delaware State Federal Steam Fitters Union, Wilmington, Del.

Richmond, Va.—Region IV.—Robert C. Lester, Maryland and District of Columbia Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C.; E. M. Hathaway, president International Typographical Union, Richmond, Va.; alternates, A. A. Thompson, International Association of Machinists, Richmond, and W. L. Causey, Plumbers Union, Greensboro, N. C.

Atlanta, Ga. — Region V. — Morris Alpert, Teamsters Union, Mobile, Ala.; Paul Chipman, International Association of Machinists, Atlanta, Ga.; alternates, George L. Mitchell, Carpenters District Council, Miami Dade Co., Miami, Fla., and John S. Martin, vice president International Ladies Garment Workers Union, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Cleveland, Ohio.—Region VIa.—William Finnegan, Cleveland Federation of Labor, Cleveland; Matthew DeMore, International Association of Machinists, Cleveland; alternates, John E. McKiernan, vice president, Kentucky State Federation of Labor, Louisville, Ky., and Fred H. Sasser, Hotel and Restaurant Employes, Cincinnati.

Detroit, Mich.—Region VIb.—Finlay C. Allan, secretary, Detroit Building Trades Council, Detroit; George W. Dean, president, Michigan Federation of Labor, Detroit; alternates, Russel Sives, International Association of Machinists, Detroit, and George Kezin, Pattern Makers League of America, Detroit.

Chicago, Ill.—Region VII.—Stanley L. Johnson, secretary-treasurer, Illinois State Federation of Labor, Chicago; Eric Bjurman, International Association of Machinists, Chicago; alternates, Earl J. McMahon, secretary-treasurer, Chicago Building and Construction Trades Council, Chicago, and E. M. Stadelman, Retail Clerks, Milwaukee, Wisc.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Region VIII.—C. W. Shrader, United Association of Steam Fitters and Plumbers, Sioux Falls; Gene Williams, General Drivers Locals, Golden Valley, Minn.; alternates, Frank Gerke, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Fargo, and James E. Winaby, Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, Billings, Mont.

Kansas City, Mo.—Region IX.—Andrew F. Harvey, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Kansas City, Mo.; John Rollins, Barbers Union, St. Louis, Mo.; alternates, Lloyd Weber, business manager, International Association of Machinists, St. Louis, Mo., and F. E. Black, executive secretary, Kansas State Federation of Labor, Topeka, Kans.

Dallas, Tex.—Region X.—Wm. J. Harris, president, Texas State Federation of Labor, Dallas, Tex.; Gordon L. Shyrock, president Teamsters Union, Tulsa, Okla.; alternates, R. L. Bruce, International Association of Machinists, Fort Worth, Tex., and E. J. Bourg, International Brotherhood Electrical Workers, Baton Rouge, La.

Denver, Colo.—Region XI.—J. Clyde Williams, vice president, Colorado Federation of Labor, Denver; Wm. McConnell, Bricklayers, Denver; alternates, Fullmer H. Latter, president, Utah State Federation of Labor, Salt Lake City, Utah; Martin Cahill, president, Wyoming State Federation, Cheyenne, Wyo.

San Francisco, Calif.—Region XII.—Wendell J. Phillips, secretary, Bakery Wagon Drivers and Salesmen, San Francisco; Roy M. Brewer, International Association Theatrical Stage Employes, Hollywood; alternates, J. C. McGraw, International Association of Machinists, Oakland, Calif., and James L. Ryan, secretary-treasurer, Nevada State Federation of Labor, Las Vegas, Nev.

Seattle, Wash.—Region XIII.—Harold G. Ballard, International Association of Machinists, Seattle, Wash.; Louis C. Berman, International Union of Operating Engineers, Seattle; alternates, Joseph H. Davis, International Union of Office Employes, Olympia, Wash., and Fred H. McCabe, vice president, Idaho State Federation of Labor, Boise, Idaho.

SEEK CHANGE

Washington.—Actor Richard Carlson and John Dales, Jr., executive secretary AFL Screen Actors Guild, asked the Senate Labor Committee for modification of the Taft-Hartley Act insofar as requirement to join the union is concerned.

Even though the Guild has a legal union shop contract under the Taft-Hartley Law, a newcomer is not required to join the Guild until 30 days after his first day's work. This provision has encouraged thousands of casuals, who have no serious intention of becoming professional actors, to take a great number of one to 5-day jobs away from the small bit players in the Hollywood employment pool.

No Large-Scale Removals In Plant Dispersal Plan

Washington.—AFL President William Green advised Central Labor Unions that President Truman's plant dispersal program provides no large-scale removal of existing plant facilities.

He said in a letter to CLU secretaries that the fact that the Soviet Union now has a stockpile of atom bombs makes a program for the dispersion of industrial facilities more necessary than ever. He said in part:

"Such a program was announced by the President on Aug. 10.

"Let me point out that the new policy is based on the following 4 points:

"1. The program is designed to disperse new and expanding industry— not to move established industry.

"2. No part of the country is to be built up at the expense of another.

"3. Industrial dispersion can be carried out if such deployment is confined to each local marketing area.

"4. State and local governments, in cooperation with private enterprise are called upon to take the initiative in this defense objective. The federal government will provide encouragement and technical guidance.

"It is particularly important to point out that this dispersion is to be carried out within local marketing areas. Up to the present time, many people have thought that the policy of dispersion would involve large-scale movement of existing defense from the highly concentrated industrialized east and middle west to the south or mountain areas.

"However, this is definitely not the philosophy under the new policy. The new policy merely looks toward dispersal within a given marketing area, presumably to a point 10 to 20 miles outside the present highly concentrated industrial centers. It does not visualize wholesale removal of any industrial industrial concentration from its present location.

"If your community includes a concentration of industrial facilities, this new policy will undoubtedly be given very thorough discussion. Carrying out this policy would involve local business, labor and civic officials. I hope that the AFL representatives in your community will take an active part in any programs or discussions concerning this new policy of dispersion."

BASEBALL CHAMPIONS

Washington. — The Washington team won the 1951 baseball championship of the Union Printers' International Baseball League, beating New York in the finals.

AFL Urges Members to 'Buy Bonds'

RELEASE SEPT. 3

Grand Rapids, Mich.—The AFL called on its 8 million members and their families to buy Savings Bonds.

Lewis G. Hines, special AFL representative, made public an appeal by AFL President William Green at the nation-wide kick-off meeting here Labor Day for the new bond drive.

"I strongly recommend," Mr. Green said, "that each and every member and family of the American Federation of Labor become regular purchasers of United States Defense Bonds.

"This may be interpreted as defense plans in two ways. First, they will build up a Defense Program for our great country and, second, a defense fund for each individual worker who purchases said bonds."

Mr. Hines said AFL members will rally to this call but he pointed out that workers' purchases will be limited because of the high cost of living.

"Many of our people," Mr. Hines said, "have bought defense bonds heretofore, but with the encroachment of the high cost of necessities to maintain their existence, the margin between their pay envelope and the bill for food, clothing and shelter has narrowed to a point where they can no longer buy bonds."

He charged Congress and the greedy interests in control of it are to blame for this unhappy situation.

The Grand Rapids bond rally was climaxed with a nation-wide radio appeals by President Truman and Secretary of Treasury John W. Snyder.

Union Advises Trolley Men Be Polite and Make Friends

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent AFL News Service

Chicago.—The Union Leader, official newspaper of the Chicago AFL street car employes, earned commendation from the metropolitan press for urging motormen and conductors to be polite to the public.

Street car men and their employer, Chicago Transit Authority, have been taking considerable abuse lately since fares were raised. Normal service interruptions and breakdowns have become more irritating than ever to the passengers.

In a front-page story, the Union Leader urged the carmen to endure all wrongs patiently.

"In the month of July," the story began, "we made 220 enemies." There had been 230 formal complaints to the management—146 reports of discourtesy and 84 complaints of cars passing up would-be passengers standing at the corner.

Daily papers took note of the Union Leader story and reacted approvingly. The Chicago Daily News went so far as to urge the riders to be polite to the street car men.

"Bus drivers and car conductors receive at birth a standard allotment of the milk of human kindness," editorialized the News. "If it is insufficient to cover the needs of their jobs at all times, one need only watch them at work for a few minutes to discover why.

"They must deal with a daily succession of irritable and irritating people who fumble for $5 bills instead of having the correct change, who block the doorways, who ask all manner of unreasonable questions, and—worst of all—who vent all their anger at any shortcomings of the service upon the only representative available, however blameless he may be."

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